

## Rousay Community Room Bookings

No bookings for the School will be taken until further notice.

## REW SELF ISOLATORS

Following the government's guidelines for the coronavirus and vulnerable people being asked to self-isolate, we would like to offer our support and assistance to anyone in self isolation needing any supplies such as food, household supplies or prescriptions or anything else you may need but can't get.

### Contact:

Alice Foulds	07948 466 380
Kirsty Tunbridge	07850 543 012
Bobby Miller	07856 073 768
Sarah Foulds	07756 939 413
Julie Morgan	07947 999 683

## Marion's Shop

### Opening Hours:

**Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 2pm - 5pm**

**Sunday: 2pm - 4pm**

Only one customer in the shop at any one time, please. If there is a **green** card on the door, you can enter. If there is a **red** card on the door, please wait until the customer leaves, to ensure the correct distances are maintained.



If you are self-isolating or cannot get to the shop for any reason, phone or e-mail Marion

( **821 365** or **marion365rousay@gmail.com** )

by 11:30am and Marion will deliver after 2pm on Mondays and Fridays.

## Rousay Cinema

We are very sorry to say that the Rousay Cinema is closed until the current pandemic is brought under control.

Stay healthy and help those you can. SAFELY.



Due to the current concerns regarding the coronavirus outbreak there will not be an April meeting.



## RNLI

Due to the lockdown it is with regret that all fundraising events for the RNLI will now not take place until further notice.

## Chair Exercise Group

Due to the current concerns regarding the coronavirus outbreak the exercise group will not be starting in April.

Kirsty and Ro will keep everyone updated about when they start and the venue - keep an eye out in The Review.

## For Sale



Lord under and over shotgun for sale plus 2-gun cabinet, cartridge belt, and 7 boxes of cartridges.

£180

Licence holders only



Cupboard

£30

Speak to Sally or Evan  
821 383 or 07522 647 794

## For Sale

Freezer, under worktop size, 3 drawers, used, £45.

Satellite Dish and cables.  
Brand new, still in box, £40.

Items at Viera View, phone Jean on 821 202.

## For Sale

Duck eggs for sale @ £1.50 for 6.

Phone Shelagh 821 283 to arrange collection.

## Marion's Shop - Thank You

This is a 'thank you' to the REWDT. The new hose nozzle for the petrol pump can now serve fuel much more speedily.

Thanks to all involved...REWDT & Robert & Richard.

Marion & Chris

## Islands View Surgery

NHS Orkney and the Scottish Government are well prepared to deal with COVID-19 (coronavirus). Following notification from the Scottish Government that we have moved to the delay phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are required to put in place measures to reduce the risk of exposure to the virus for both patients and staff.

We understand this may be an anxious time for many of our patients, but we would like to reassure you that we are here ready and able to help and support in any way we can. Following guidance from Scottish Government in relation to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) situation we would also like to let you know about some changes to the way we will be working over the next few weeks.

In order to delay the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus) we will be carrying out the majority of our appointments by telephone. If you feel you need to be seen face to face you will have the opportunity to discuss your concerns with a GP or Nurse Practitioner. If they feel you need to be seen in person, an appointment will be made for you to see the most appropriate person at the most convenient time available.

NHS Scotland has a very helpful website which has the most up to date information in relation to COVID-19. This website is regularly updated with the latest advice and guidance on how to delay the spread of COVID-19 and what you should do if you think may be experiencing symptoms,

For more information please visit <http://nhsinform.scot>.

### Ordering medication

You should continue to order your medication in the usual way allowing at least one week for your medication to arrive. There is no need to order medication more than two weeks before you will run out. If you are unable to do so, it is important you let staff know at the time of ordering that you have less than a week's supply left.

Please do not telephone us to ask if it has arrived – this takes up valuable staff time and is unnecessary. When your medication arrives, we will contact you to let you know and you will be asked to make an appointment to come and to collect your medication as we need to ensure we follow social distancing and to allow us to clean door handles, etc. between visitors.

### Opening Hours

Our telephone lines are busier than usual at the moment therefore you may find it more difficult to get through to us than usual. We would ask that if you are able to that you can contact us by e-mail [ork-hb.gp38084-rousay@nhs.net](mailto:ork-hb.gp38084-rousay@nhs.net).

We are aware that some of you may have the e-mail addresses for individual staff members but we would ask that you use the email listed above to ensure your messages are seen and responded to as soon as possible.

Monday	09:00-13:00
Tuesday	14:00-18:00
Wednesday	09:00-11:00, 16:00-18:00
Thursday	11:00-15:00
Friday	09:00-11:00, 16:00-18:00

Telephone: 01856 821265 E-mail: [ork-hb.gp38084-rousay@nhs.net](mailto:ork-hb.gp38084-rousay@nhs.net)

## The REWDT, Heat Smart Orkney & REWIRED Offices are now closed to visitors due to the Covid-19 Virus

The staff are still working, but are not always in the office.

The office e-mails, post, and phone messages are being picked up each day and the staff will respond as soon as they are able.

For REWDT & REWIRED, please either e-mail [info@rewdt.org](mailto:info@rewdt.org) or leave a message on 821 229.

For Heat Smart Orkney, please e-mail [info@heatsmartorkney.co.uk](mailto:info@heatsmartorkney.co.uk) or leave a message on 821 277.

Thank you for your patience in such difficult times. Stay safe.

## Covid-19 - Support for Residents

Over the last week REWDT's Directors and staff have been keen to establish what is the best thing that REWDT can do to help in these worrying times and are currently working with Voluntary Action Orkney (VAO) and community members and volunteers to support existing efforts and identify gaps in provision that can be filled here on Rousay, Egilsay & Wyre.

Marion's Shop has a phone-in service for orders and volunteer drivers who will take these to residents on Rousay, and to the ferry for collection from Wyre & Egilsay Pier.

Four residents - Bobby-Jean Miller (07856 073768), Kirsty Tunbridge (07850 543012), Alice Foulds (07948 466380) and Sarah Foulds (07756 939413) - are volunteering to help those in self-isolation.

We would like to compile a list of volunteers (for supporting, phone checking and befriending for those in self-isolation) - if you are willing to offer any time, please let REW DT know.

If you have any urgent needs that we can help you with, please let us know and we will try to source support for you. We all need to remain safe and therefore limit our travel. Let our island business and volunteers help you.

More information will follow soon.

## Brinian Play Park - Closure due to Covid-19

Following the most recent Government advice, we are sorry to say that the Brinian Play Park will now be closed until further notice.

## 2020 Peedie Lap 5K - Cancelled

Due to the Covid-19 virus, the Peedie Lap 5K, originally scheduled for June 2020, is now cancelled.

### EGM Request

11 members have signed a letter to REWDT calling for an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) to discuss the purchase and development of the Pier Restaurant and to make changes to REWDT's Articles of Association, to give the members the power to pass a vote of no confidence regarding either an individual director or the entire Board.

Having taken advice from OSCR (the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator) we have been informed that due to the Covid-19 virus, we must not hold a public meeting at this time. The Board will therefore be writing to the 11 members who signed the letter, explaining this. An EGM will be scheduled as soon as it is safe to do so.

### Trumland Land Project

We are still working with our solicitors and the owners regarding the purchase of the land. The purchase is progressing, albeit slowly, and the Big Lottery Fund (BLF), who are providing 100% of the purchase price and purchase fees, are being kept informed to ensure the funding is still available. Ellie has been looking further into the possibility of creating a Ranger Service Provision and the cost implications, responsibilities and pros and cons of this provision so that she can discuss these ideas with the community once the land purchase has been finalised.

### Thank you, Bryan

Due to his family commitments, Bryan Milner has resigned from both the REWDT & REWIRED Boards. The Directors and staff of REWDT and REWIRED would like to thank Bryan for all the hard work he has given to both organisations over so many years. Bryan has been involved as a director, and at times Chair and Vice-Chair of both organisations, almost since the beginning, and will be sorely missed.

### Thanks also to Clare Daintith & Shelagh Grieve

The Directors and staff would also like to thank Clare & Shelagh, who have recently resigned as REWDT directors, for their contributions at Board meetings, and passion and enthusiasm for the work regarding our various projects.



### 2019 Swandro Excavation Report

For a short report on the exciting findings from last summer's Swandro dig on Rousay, please go to the 'Heritage' page on REW Development Trust's website ([www.rewdt.org](http://www.rewdt.org)) and click on the link to the Report.

## Grant Review

### Grants 2012 - 2020

Between 2012 and 2020 funds from the community turbine have been awarded to many community clubs and groups including:

**The Crafhub - £39,368** Grants for start-up costs, annual grants to support staff costs and running costs.

**REW Parent Council - £18,250** Grants towards Annual Outdoor Education and School trips, Ferry Tickets, Family Fun day.

**Rousay Sailing Club £13,000** Marina Feasibility Study and Boat Building materials.

**Rousay Farmers Group - £5,022** Goose scaring equipment.

**Rousay Snooker Club - £3,229** Support towards funding running costs, maintenance and repairs.

**Rousay Cinema Club - £200** Blu-rays and other equipment for film nights.

Since 2012 grants have been awarded to REW community groups and individuals using funds generated by the community turbine. The grants awarded to the community over the last 8 years currently total over **£210,000**.

From 2008-2012 over 150 REW residents have been awarded grants funded by their community turbine.

Since 2012 **£26,706** has been awarded to REW residents for **Educational grants** which can help improve employment prospects for residents of the three islands.

The **Well-being grant** funding pot was introduced four years ago and in that time **£17,735** of community turbine funds have been awarded to over 60 members of the community to help improve their well-being. This fund is open to all residents and has been used for gym memberships at Rousay Gym or the Pickaquoy Centre, craft courses at the Crafhub and swimming lessons.

This financial year the **Child Ferry grant** awarded a book of 50 tickets each to **24 resident children**. These have been used to help the children attend events on the Mainland.

*Please get in touch with the Trust office if you would like any help with applying for a grant. Phone 01856 821229 or email [grants@rewdt.org](mailto:grants@rewdt.org)*



# 2019/20 GRANTS



This financial year we have dealt with over 100 grant applications. These have included the following grants.

### Individual grants

- 24 books of tickets for Child Ferry crossings (£1,520) helping to support children attending events on Mainland
- 35 Well-being 100 grants (£3,500) towards gym membership or Craffhub courses.
- 5 Broadband Installation grants (£1,250) improving connectivity in 5 residents' homes.
- 9 Education grants (£2,700) towards costs of Food Hygiene courses, boat skills courses and other courses to improve employment prospects.

### Community Group grants

- Rousay Sailing Club Boat building
- Rousay Rainbows, Brownies and Guides Subscriptions
- The Craffhub workshop running costs
- Rousay Cinema Club equipment
- Rousay Parent Council Outdoor Education & Lagganlia Trip for Rousay Primary School children
- Rousay Book Club Italian Chapel trip

*We have been working hard to simplify the application and grant process and hope that grant customers have been able to see the result. Should you have any community groups who are looking to undertake a project or require funding, we would be happy to help you fill out an application form/talk you through the process.*

## Our 2020/21 Grant Schemes

**Broadband Fund**  
**Child Ferry Tickets**  
**Driving Lessons**  
**Education & Training**  
**Well Being 100 Fund**

As some Well-Being grants have been used to purchase memberships at the Pickaquoy Centre, we thought it would be helpful to include the following information.

Regarding the closure of facilities due to COVID19, The Pickaquoy Centre have said "We would like to reassure our customers that our ActiveLife and ActiveIslands memberships paid by direct debit will be frozen until 'normal' service resumes. Any members who have paid in full will have additional time added to their memberships."

### Ready to apply to one of our grant funds?

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, The Manse is closed, and staff are working predominantly from home. We are currently encouraging electronic grant applications. Application forms for grants are available on our website ([www.rewdt.org](http://www.rewdt.org)) and can be filled in, signed, and returned to us electronically ([grants@rewdt.org](mailto:grants@rewdt.org)), however, if you would prefer an application form to be posted out to you instead, we will happily do so. Please call and leave a message on 01856 821 229 or email [grants@rewdt.org](mailto:grants@rewdt.org)

All applications to the above Grant Schemes must be received a minimum of **two weeks** before the training or first well being activity takes places, and a minimum of **two weeks** before payment is due, to allow sufficient time for applications to be processed.

### Does Your Organisation or Community Group Need Financial Support?

Why not let REW DT support you in finding external funding opportunities and then help you with your grant application. If you would like to speak to staff about this offer, please contact the office. Alternatively, VAO in Kirkwall also offers to support community groups with finding funding opportunities. Tel. 01856 872897.



#### Here2Help

Regular help with a range of household tasks, at a rate subsidised by the Trust.

Contact Gillian at

Age Scotland Orkney direct:

01856 872438

[gillian@ageconcernorkney.org.uk](mailto:gillian@ageconcernorkney.org.uk)

#### Office 'Drop-In' & Wi-Fi

#### Covid-19 Update

In line with the Government's latest advice, our office is currently closed to the public.

The next two Board Meetings are planned for **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2020 & Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2020.**

#### Car Club

Due to the Covid-19 virus, please use the antibacterial wipes in the car after you have returned the car to The Manse. Thank you.



**Book the car online or via the Office.**

Car Club FAQs and T&Cs are available online.

Telephone: 01856 821 229

General E-mails: [info@rewdt.org](mailto:info@rewdt.org)

Grants E-mails: [grants@rewdt.org](mailto:grants@rewdt.org)

Visit our website:

[www.rewdt.org](http://www.rewdt.org)



[facebook.com/rewdt](https://facebook.com/rewdt)

#### Directors:

John Garson (Chair), Kayleigh Tipper (Vice-Chair), Carolyne Tunbridge (Treasurer), Carole Maguire, Alison Mainland, Mark Hull (co-opted) & Peter Roebuck (co-opted).

**Rousay, Egilsay and Wyre Development Trust** is a charitable company limited by guarantee.

Co. Reg. No: SC318527 Charity Reg. No: SC040407

Registered Office: The Manse, Rousay, Orkney, KW17 2PR



**DIVERTING UNUSED RENEWABLE ENERGY INTO AFFORDABLE HEATING**

## **THE HSO OFFICE IS NOW CLOSED TO VISITORS IN ORDER TO KEEP EVERYONE HEALTHY AND WELL**

However, we are still working as usual and will continue to be your first line of contact in case of any equipment issues.

We will continue to contact you for meter readings and bills, and will continue to issue rebates.

**Please email or phone us using our contact information below.**

For those who have not yet provided us with their electricity bills, oil, coal or Calor gas purchases we **URGENTLY** require this information so we can work out your increased rebate accurately.

**Please email or post this information to us *as soon as possible*.**



*From the community  
For the community*



For more information about the project contact us:

Phone: **01856 821277** Email: **info@heatsmartorkney.co.uk**



Alternatively, learn about our progress on **Facebook** by searching **Heat Smart Orkney** and on the web at **www.rewdt.org/HSO**

## ROUSAY, EGILSAY, WYRE & GAIRSAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Bag the Bruck: Saturday 18th April– Sunday 26th April 2020

The Outdoor Orkney Group has recently contacted this office to advise community councils of the arrangements for the 2020 Bag the Bruck collections. The event is scheduled to take place over a nine day period this year, extending from Saturday 18th April until Sunday 26th April.

Please note that this activity qualifies for grant through CCGS, as long as the **application is made to the clerk prior to the event**. Funding can be provided to one or several groups and CCGS is subject to a maximum project cost of **£300** in any financial year

Please send your emails to [rewgclerk@gmail.com](mailto:rewgclerk@gmail.com) to register your interest for this activity.

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## Scrap car Scheme REWG

The scrap car scheme that has been widely used by residents is available again however there is a budget which is being monitored between community council meetings. For the moment the community council will be meeting most of the costs incurred.

If you have any cars for uplifting please get in touch with the clerk detailing make model and location, and who will be lifting your vehicle on to the wagon (there may be a charge for this). A contact number will also be needed to send on to the haulier.

Rousay, Egilsay, Wyre & Gairsay Community Council  
Clerk contact details are as follows:-

**Mrs E Soames**  
**4 Johnston's Road**  
**Rousay**  
Email: [rewgclerk@gmail.com](mailto:rewgclerk@gmail.com)





## Heritage Grants

Do you have an idea for a small project that relates to the cultural, built or natural heritage of your island?

Community groups can apply for grants of between  
£200 and £2,000

<https://www.nilps.co.uk/small-grants/heritage-grants>

## Student Research Grants

Are you a student carrying out research that focuses on the cultural, built or natural heritage of the North Isles of Orkney?

Apply for up to £500 towards travel, research materials or equipment.

<https://www.nilps.co.uk/small-grants/student-research-grant>

For more information contact the NILPS team:

48 Albert Street, Kirkwall

T: 01856 879076

E: [nilps@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:nilps@orkney.gov.uk) W: [www.nilps.co.uk](http://www.nilps.co.uk)



## Rousay Horticultural Society

Due to the current restrictions as a result of Covid-19, there will be no Tattie-in-a-Bucket this year, but the Show might still be possible, so we hope that everyone will use this time to grow their own and craft like crazy!

Download a copy of the schedule: [www.aroundrousay.co.uk/RHS2020.pdf](http://www.aroundrousay.co.uk/RHS2020.pdf)

# Stephen Clackson's Letter from School Place

## Reporting on the trials and tribulations of your islands' councillor

Issue 86 | March 2020

COVID-19 (coronavirus) has come to dominate everything in the course of this month. I won't repeat here the advice on handwashing and social distancing, etc, OIC is complying with the Scottish Government/NHS guidance on dealing with this dynamic situation and managing the risks (see <https://www.orkney.gov.uk/Council/C/coronavirus.htm> ). NHS guidance can be found at: <https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/infections-and-poisoning/coronavirus-covid-19> or obtained by telephoning 0800-028-2816. Orkney Ferries have routines in place and request that if you are showing any of the symptoms or signs that you may be infected, please do **not** enter their offices or board their vessels. If you have no choice but to travel, please seek NHS guidance and contact the Shore Street office on 01856-872044 to make the necessary arrangements to protect ferry staff and other travellers. See <http://www.orkneyferries.co.uk/news.php?newsID=36> .

Now on to more commonplace Council matters, such as the OIC budget:

There is a fundamental principle of local government that councillors are elected to make decisions on behalf of the population they serve. At both the Special Policy & Resources Committee meeting to set our council budget and at the subsequent General Meeting to ratify it, I lodged an amendment to qualify the proposed **minimum** of 3% increase in our council charges with a **maximum** above which officials would be required to come back to councillors for approval. (Remember the 11% increase in garage rents? and the 1000% increase in scaffolding permits!) Astoundingly, both times it was defeated, on the second occasion the intricacies of "raising the price of an apple" trumping this fundamental principle of local government. (An excerpt from my reasoned appeal and the non-sequitur "apple counter-argument" were broadcast on *BBC Radio Orkney* on the 5th March.) I thank and respect the few councillors who supported my amendment, for they understand this principle and are willing to accept the responsibility it confers—"We few, we happy few, we band of brothers; for he to-day that sheds his blood with me shall be my brother". Back on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2012, experienced councillor Alistair Gordon and Bill Stout (founders of the Orkney Manifesto Group) wrote in *The Orcadian*: "As things stand, the role of councillors is to review proposals produced by the officials and to agree or reject them. This arrangement effectively casts the officials as the 'government' and the councillors as the 'opposition'." Eight years later, there's rarely even much opposition, although a few of us do try, and we occasionally succeed when  $|the\ few| > n/2$ , where  $n$  is the total number of councillors present and voting. Orkney's councillors are still far from performing the rôle of Orkney's "government" as they should be.

On a like-for-like basis (Eilean Siar pays nothing for its ferry services), the revenue funding for each man, woman and child in Orkney that the Scottish Government is providing to OIC for this financial year is £357 less than it is providing for each Shetlander and £673 less than it is giving for each person in the Western Isles. This lack of adequate Scottish Government funding means we have had to put up council tax again. However, if you need a second dwelling in order to work on the Mainland (or other Orkney island) because daily commuting is not possible, don't forget to apply for the discount I succeeded in bringing in last year (see the February 2019 issue of *Letter from School Place*). We had a meeting with Liam McArthur MSP to talk about the Scottish budget, and particularly our concerns to get the money to help keep our lifeline ferry service running for another year. But we got no help from the LibDems, nor from the Greens who in the end supported the SNP minority government to set its budget. No political party seems to want to support Orkney. Argyll and Bute Council has received full funding from the Scottish Government for running its ferry service, including the cost of a new ferry. Orkney, on the other hand, is being given £5,323,000, which is short of what we need simply to keep the service operating at the current level and with the current ferries. This means we are forced to increase our fares by 3%, which, considering we already have the highest fares and the most decrepit fleet in Scotland, is a complete anathema to me. Before devolution in 1999, Orkney received significant financial support for its inter-island ferries at least twice from the United Kingdom Government: in the early 1960s and in 1987. Tragically for the survival of Orkney's island communities, ferry funding is now a devolved matter.

To counter the claim that OIC doesn't spend its reserves, I think it is illuminating to list here some of the services which are having to rely on funding from those reserves to keep them going. These include: enhanced social care services, voluntary services, community care grants, St Magnus cathedral, library service, museums, culture fund, grounds maintenance, parks & play areas, music provision, swimming pools, Pickaquooy Centre, healthy living centres, outdoor education service, public conveniences, and economic development grants. £6,300,000 has been allocated from the reserves for 2020/21.

Other meetings I have attended this month include: a briefing on children's services, a members' political session, a workshop on the National Planning Framework, a meeting with the rural planner to see what can be done about a new transformer blocking a track in Sanday, a meeting of the Empowering Communities Steering Group, and a meeting of the Orkney Ferries Board. I travelled to Thurso for the AGM and a public meeting of the Doune Stakeholder Group. The following day I went to Nucleus in Wick to meet Gordon Reid, the nuclear archivist. Nucleus is a purpose-built facility housing the archives of the UK civil nuclear industry. The fact it is located in Wick demonstrates that governments can be encouraged to base a national facility on the periphery of the country, something worth Orkney noting. To avoid the risk of encountering the coronavirus, these will be the last Council-related meetings I'll be attending outwith Orkney for the time being.

Following the latest Council advice, I shall be restricting my movements until further notice to shuttling between Sanday and School Place or the Ferry Office for as long as there are face-to-face meetings to attend and I am still uninfected. I shall not be attending community council meetings, parent council meetings or other events taking place in the Isles.

Stay healthy if you can, and keep calm and carry on!

Cllr Dr Stephen Clackson  
West Manse, Sanday

[stephen.clackson@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.clackson@orkney.gov.uk)

You can download "Letter from School Place"  
from [lfsp.pbworks.com](http://lfsp.pbworks.com)

